

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)

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Topic Area: Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

Action Item

Siting of new facilities—Evaluate location standards, environmental justice issues, and setback distances and develop guidance to provide technical assistance to State, Tribal, and local governments.

Office of Solid Waste

The Office of Solid Waste (OSW) formed the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Siting Workgroup to review policy options related to siting of RCRA facilities. The workgroup, composed of representatives of various Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) offices, Headquarters media program offices (e.g., air, toxics), other Headquarters offices (e.g., Office of General Counsel (OGC), Office of Research and Development (ORD), Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ)), and the Regional offices, held five meetings between April 1994 and April 1995 to evaluate technical issues related to the potential risk in various geographic locations as well as environmental justice issues raised about RCRA facility siting. The workgroup also met with State officials and members of the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) to discuss environmental justice concerns and potential solutions.

The Workgroup presented its initial findings and proposed action plan to the Assistant Administrator of OSWER (AA/OSWER). The workgroup gave special consideration to plans for developing technical assistance guidance for State, local, and Tribal governments and developing a national summary of existing State, local, and Tribal siting requirements. Based on the response of the AA/OSWER, OSW will implement and, as appropriate, revise its proposed follow-up actions.

Completed Milestones

4/94	Formed RCRA Siting Workgroup.
8/94	Presented draft workgroup report to the AA/OSWER.
9/94	Held AA/OSWER briefing.
11/94	Formed Location Standards Workgroup.
1/95	Prepared Siting Workgroup Plan.
1/95	Held siting discussions with the NEJAC
1/95	Held siting discussions with the National Solid Waste Management Association.
2/95	Held OSWER meeting.

Contact

Vernon Myers, (703) 308-8660

Action Item

Incorporate environmental justice priorities into annual RCRA Implementation Plan.

Office of Solid Waste

For the first time, OSW incorporated an environmental justice section into the RCRA Implementation Plan (RIP). The fiscal year 1995 RIP discusses five environmental justice recommendations from the “OSWER Environmental Justice Task Force Draft Final Report”:

- Identification of geographical areas that raise environmental justice concerns;
- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act;
- Siting of RCRA facilities;
- Public participation in siting and permitting decisions; and
- RCRA corrective action.

The RIP also calls for Regions to develop implementation plans to address the recommendations. OSW plans to further integrate environmental justice concepts into the RIP for the fiscal year 1996.

Completed Milestones

5/94 Issued fiscal year 1995 RIP Addendum.

Contact

Jeff Tumarkin, (703) 308-8755

Action Item

Siting of new facilities—Craft a grant condition to State grant agreements to require States to consider environmental justice concerns when making siting decisions based on protecting human health and the environment.

Region 1

Region 1 modified the Waste Management Division’s (WMD’s) guidance to States applying for Federal grants under RCRA Subtitle C (hazardous waste) to include references to environmental justice. The Region added language describing the mandate for Federal agencies to address environmental justice among minority and low-income populations. The guidance is designed to encourage the States to focus inspection and enforcement efforts in environmental justice areas and requires States to incorporate environmental justice scores for their permitting and closure commitments. Region 1 sent the revised RCRA Subtitle C grant guidance to States in the Region, and all States have addressed environmental justice in their final grant applications.

Completed Milestones

5/94 Provided grant guidance incorporating environmental justice to the States.

Contact

Joan Serra, (617) 223-5527

Region 3

Region 3 held discussions with all the States in its jurisdiction about incorporating environmental justice considerations in their grant workplans. To date, all States in Region 3 have included various work activities in their grant workplans such as the identification of environmental justice areas of concern through development and use of geographical information systems (GIS), the RCRA Information System (RCRIS), and environmental justice studies. State grant workplans also include developing of training and resource materials to inform the public and staff about environmental justice issues.

Completed Milestones

4/94 State program managers developed Regional guidance for States to follow in developing fiscal year 1995 workplans.

4/94 Included environmental justice issues as a topic for discussion at the State directors meeting.

5/94 Sent fiscal year 1995 grant guidance to States.

6/94 Submitted fiscal year 1995 draft workplans.

Contact

Charles (Pete) Bentley, (215) 597-7188

Region 5

During the fourth quarter of fiscal year 1994, Region 5's RCRA program office drafted a generic grant workplan "State activity" commitment to incorporate environmental justice. The Region negotiated this commitment with all six Region 5 States and each of the States included environmental justice as a "State activity" in its fiscal year 1995 grant workplan.

Completed Milestones

6/94 Drafted a generic grant workplan "State activity" commitment to incorporate environmental justice.

8/94 Negotiated environmental justice "State activity" commitment with all six Region 5 States.

Contacts

Rich Traub, (312) 353-8319

Margaret Millard, (312) 353-1440

Region 6

To ensure that States consider environmental justice concerns in their environmental programs, Region 6 established a multi-media Grants Integration Network (GIN) Workgroup in August 1994 that meets biweekly to monitor Regional grant activity and to ensure that the themes of environmental justice, pollution prevention, public participation, and others are embodied in Regional grants to States. The workgroup was established in August 1994 and continues to meet to ensure that all Region 6 grants consider these themes.

Also, Region 6 included environmental justice as a new initiative program element in its RCRA Section 3011 multi-year grant workplan, which will affect all State RCRA Subtitle C programs. Region 6 worked with States to identify environmental justice issues and opportunities to ensure that environmental justice activities are part of State programs. States in the Region are developing environmental justice strategies, including provisions for identifying sites or areas that would most likely raise environmental justice concerns. They are requesting clear guidance from EPA, however, on their approach. EPA is working closely with States to provide this guidance.

Completed Milestones

- 8/94 Established the GIN Workgroup in Region 6 (multi-media).
- 9/94 States began development of environmental justice strategies.

Contacts

William Rhea, (214) 665-6767 (GIN Workgroup)

Ann Zimmerman, (214) 665-8532 (Region/State efforts related to implementation of the RCRA Section 3011 workplan)

Region 7

Region 7 RCRA mid-level managers met with their State counterparts to discuss environmental justice concerns. Based on these discussions, authorized RCRA program States included sections on environmental justice in their fiscal year 1995 State/EPA agreement workplans. The workplans also included sections on expanded public participation, which will better allow interested groups to provide input on environmental justice issues or other concerns related to facility siting.

Completed Milestones

- 7/94 Met with State directors.
- 10/94 Incorporated environmental justice issues in workplans for State grants (Kansas—7/94; Missouri—8/94; Nebraska—10/94).

Contact

Wes Bartley, (913) 551-7632

Action Item

RCRA Permits—Establish strategy to respond effectively to all environmental justice issues raising health-related concerns.

Region 5

Region 5's RCRA program office has responded to environmental justice concerns raised by communities during the permitting process and has developed a procedure for addressing these concerns. For sites where the public has expressed environmental justice concerns, the Region has included a discussion of the concerns, along with the Region's proposed actions in its response to public comments and in the administrative record. During early 1995, the Region formed a workgroup in the RCRA Permits Branch to examine how environmental justice might be taken into consideration for every permit action. The workgroup drafted a "permit writer's checklist" to be used as a screening device. The checklist would be included in the administrative docket and would be made available to the public as an educational tool. The draft checklist is currently under internal review.

To date, environmental justice concerns have been raised during permit actions at two sites in Region 5: the Environmental Enterprises Incorporated (EEI) facility located in Cincinnati, Ohio, (a RCRA treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) permit renewal), and the Adams Center Landfill located in Fort Wayne, Indiana (a landfill expansion permit). Also, the public raised environmental justice issues in a letter not tied to the permitting process for the Waste Technologies Industries (WTI) incinerator, located in East Liverpool.

Environmental justice concerns were raised with regard to air emissions from the EEI facility. As part of the EEI permit renewal process, the Region determined that a risk analysis for fugitive air emissions from containers and process trains was appropriate to determine the human health and environmental risks associated with the emissions. Additionally, the Region, in partnership with the Ohio EPA, will be pursuing enhanced enforcement, public outreach, and education at this facility.

For the Adams Center Landfill expansion permit, a demographic analysis was completed and additional public outreach was conducted, including an informal public meeting, in August 1994, that was attended by concerned constituents, including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Fort Wayne Urban League, the Fort Wayne Ministerial Alliance, and local citizen groups, to listen to environmental justice concerns. The Region determined that further risk analysis or assessment was not appropriate at this time.

A risk assessment is currently underway at the WTI incinerator, as is a demographic analysis of the surrounding community to identify potential environmental justice concerns.

Completed Milestones

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 10/94 | Formed workgroup to develop standard procedures for integrating environmental justice into permit decision-making. |
| 12/94 | Drafted the "permit writer's checklist." |

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 12/94 | Decided to conduct risk analysis for fugitive air emissions at the EEI facility as part of the permit renewal process. |
| 12/94 | Decided not to conduct further risk analysis and/or assessment at the Adams Center Landfill. |

Contacts

Steve Bouchard, (312) 886-4437 (permitting workgroup, EEI facility)

Harriet Croke, (312) 353-4789 (WTI incinerator)

George Hamper, (312) 886-0987 (permitting workgroup)

Don Heller, (312) 353-1248 (Adams Center Landfill)

Region 6

Region 6, RCRA Permits Branch developed a communication strategy for coordinating with other Regional and Headquarters offices on environmental justice issues regarding health or Civil Rights Act Title VI complaints. Under the strategy, RCRA Permits will coordinate with Headquarter's Office of Civil Rights and OSW, and Region 6's Management Division and Office of Regional Counsel (ORC).

Completed Milestones

- | | |
|------|--|
| 9/94 | Developed communication strategy for addressing environmental justice issues, including Title VI complaints. |
|------|--|

Contact

Cathy Carter, (214) 665-7434

Action Item

RCRA Public Involvement—Develop methods to expand public involvement in siting and permitting, and increase efforts (resources) committed to public involvement.

Office of Solid Waste

OSW proposed a public participation rule on June 2, 1994, that will expand public involvement opportunities during the RCRA permitting process. The lack of opportunities for communities to become involved in environmental decision-making is a contributing cause to environmental justice issues. The public participation rule will help empower all communities, including minority and low-income populations, by providing communities with a greater voice in decision-making and a stronger opportunity to influence permit decisions early in the process.

The rule seeks to encourage public involvement by informing the public of potential facility operations prior to permit submittal. The proposed rule, entitled "RCRA Expanded Public Participation and Revisions to Combustion Permitting Procedures," expands public involvement by:

- Requiring the facility to conduct a meeting with the community before it submits its permit applications;
- Calling for the permitting agency to provide public notice when it receives an application, as well as before a trial burn takes place; and
- Enabling the permitting agency to require a facility to maintain an information repository in some situations.

OSW formed a workgroup to prepare the proposed rule. The workgroup will continue its efforts to finalize the rule.

Completed Milestones

3/94 Reached workgroup closure.

6/94 Issued proposed rule.

Contact

Patricia Buzzell, (703) 308-8632

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships topic area.]

OSW also has representatives on the Agency's Permit Improvements Team. The team, established in July 1994, consists of a group of EPA, State, Tribal, and local government officials examining all of EPA's permit programs to identify how they can be improved.

Enhancing public participation is one of the areas in which the team is developing recommendations. The team's public participation task force met with a representative from Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) and, as a result, made a preliminary recommendation that the Environmental Justice Public Participation checklist, developed by the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice, be utilized as guidance to the extent appropriate and feasible. The team will continue coordinating with OEJ in order to promote consistency in approaches to enhancing public involvement.

Completed Milestones

3/95 Permit Improvements Team's Enhanced Public Participation Task Force met with OEJ.

4/95 Mailed preliminary recommendations to stakeholders.

Contact

Patricia Buzzell, (703) 308-8632

Region 2

Region 2 developed a RCRA action plan for enhanced public involvement and began the implementation of this plan at an environmental justice site in Puerto Rico. The Region also initiated an innovative outreach program with the El Puente school in New York.

To encourage earlier, more meaningful public involvement, especially in environmental justice areas, Region 2's RCRA action plan addresses six major aspects of public involvement:

- Fostering public involvement at the planning stage;
- Requiring each facility to submit a citizen participation plan;
- Involving community-based organizations;
- Simplifying the language used in public notices;
- Publishing public notices in the common language of the community; and
- Increasing the involvement of States (New York and New Jersey) and the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) of Puerto Rico.

Region 2 established contacts with the States and Puerto Rico to work with EPA on the action plan. To begin implementing the RCRA action plan, Region 2 developed an outline of citizen participation plans. Implementation of the complete action plan will begin by fiscal year 1996.

Region 2 is applying its improved and expanded public participation procedures at Squibb Manufacturing Incorporated (Squibb), a site with environmental justice concerns located in Humacao, Puerto Rico. Squibb submitted a RCRA permit renewal application for the operation of three hazardous waste incinerator units and seven hazardous waste storage tanks at the site. Under the new procedures, an initial pre-application review public meeting was held on February 28, 1995. In addition to the Region's traditional public notification procedures in print and through radio announcements in Spanish and English, notifications were spread to community centers and homes located near the facility. Two public meetings were held, and concerned community members had the opportunity to raise their concerns in both languages. The Region and the EQB distributed to the community bilingual written responses to public comments. The Region also established a public information repository at the Public Library of the Municipality of Humacao.

In other efforts, officials from the Region and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection conducted outreach activities with El Puente, a local community-based organization. [Note: More detail on this entry is reported under the Outreach, Communications, and Partnership topic area.]

Completed Milestones

9/94	Drafted the RCRA action plan for public involvement.
9/94	Identified the Squibb site as a site with environmental justice concerns.
11/94	Developed community mailing list for the Squibb site.
12/94	Notified local community groups of the pre-application meeting for the Squibb site.
12/94	Developed an outline for citizen participation plans.
1/95	Issued public notices about the Squibb site in Spanish and English.
2/95	Held the pre-application meeting for the Squibb site.

Contacts

Andrew Bellina, (212) 637-4109 (RCRA action plan)

Wilfredo Palomino, (212) 637-4179 (RCRA action plan and Squibb)

Michael Poetzsch, (212) 637-414 (Squibb)

Joseph Malki, (212) 637-4101 (Squibb)

Region 3

Region 3 is engaged in two activities to incorporate environmental justice concerns into the RCRA public participation process. The Region is expanding the environmental justice portion of the RCRA Public Involvement Manual (RPIM) and is working to revise the RCRA Community Relations Plan (CRP).

RCRA staff drafted a Region-specific addendum to the RPIM addressing environmental justice concerns. Following final approval of the addendum, the Region will provide the addendum to all RCRA facilities that are issued a corrective action order.

The Region also drafted modifications to the scope of work (SOW) of the CRP to incorporate steps to ensure that RCRA facilities address environmental justice concerns. These modifications include requiring a RCRA facility to identify all affected demographic groups surrounding the facility and take steps to include those groups in the decision-making process. The Region will submit proposed changes to the SOW for consideration during the upcoming revision of the model order, which is planned to be completed during fiscal year 1995.

Completed Milestones

5/94 Modified the CRP SOW to include environmental justice concerns.

6/94 Briefed managers on the modified CRP SOW.

9/94 Drafted addendum to the RPIM.

Contact

Harry Daw, (215) 597-3177

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships topic area.]

Region 5

Region 5's RCRA program office increased its public outreach efforts in response to environmental justice concerns raised in the Region. For example, during the Adams Center Landfill expansion permit process, the Region held an additional informal public meeting with concerned constituents, including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Fort Wayne Urban League, the Fort Wayne Ministerial Alliance, and local citizen groups, to listen to environmental justice concerns.

For fiscal year 1995, the Region allocated an additional 0.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) from the RCRA program office to the Region's Office of Public Affairs for public

participation activities. Additionally, the RCRA program office will explore reinvesting in RCRA public participation during RCRA streamlining planning during fiscal year 1995 and fiscal year 1996.

Completed Milestones

- 8/94 Held an informal public meeting with concerned citizens at the Adams County Landfill.
- 10/94 Allocated an additional 0.5 FTE for public participation activities.

Contacts

Bill Omohundro, (312) 353-8254

Margaret Millard, (312) 353-1440

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships topic area.]

Region 6

Region 6 assigned one FTE to the RCRA Community Involvement Permits Branch. This individual is currently training under a mentor from Superfund Community Involvement. Region 6 will use the Superfund Community Involvement Training Modules to train RCRA staff on expanding public involvement until RCRA-specific training materials become available.

Completed Milestones

- 10/94 Assigned one FTE to RCRA Community Involvement.
- 10/94 Tasked a mentor from Superfund Community Involvement to train a RCRA Community Involvement Coordinator.
- 4/95 Completed training.

Contact

Jennifer Morisato, (214) 665-2194

Region 7

Region 7 encouraged States to expand their public participation activities. Fiscal year 1995 State/EPA agreement workplans included sections on expanding public participation and allowing interested groups to provide input on environmental justice issues or other concerns related to facility siting. Region 7 also encourages States to voluntarily expand their public participation in environmental justice areas.

Completed Milestones

- 10/94 States submitted EPA/State agreement workplans that include sections on expanded public involvement (Kansas—7/94; Missouri—8/94; Nebraska—10/94).

Contact

Wes Bartley, (913) 551-7632

Region 10

During the last 6 months, the Region 10 RCRA program has had a “Stay-in-School” employee researching options for improving the Region’s outreach to communities with environmental justice concerns. The “Stay-in-School” employee worked with the Central Area Motivation Program (a community social service association) to identify more effective means of reaching members of a minority community in Seattle, Washington. The Region has completed its initial research, has prepared a paper on the findings for use throughout the Region, and will evaluate whether the RCRA Branch can support a pilot program within currently available resources.

Completed Milestones

1/95 Drafted paper.

Contact

Betty Wiese, (206) 553-0695

Action Item

RCRA Corrective Action—Examine whether priority-setting method adequately considers environmental justice concerns and ensure that activities are consistent with Superfund program policies.

Office of Solid Waste

OSW is incorporating environmental justice provisions in its new Hazardous Waste Identification Rule-Contaminated Media rulemaking. The draft rule would allow regulators to require collection of demographic data for areas surrounding sites. This requirement is intended to improve State and EPA assessment of and response to environmental justice concerns associated with site cleanups.

In addition, OSW is evaluating whether the National Corrective Action Prioritization System (NCAPS), used to rank RCRA corrective action sites, adequately considers environmental justice concerns. The system currently enables site rankings to include environmental justice considerations. OSW will also monitor the efforts of the RCRA Siting Workgroup and incorporate the workgroup’s findings and recommendations into the evaluation of NCAPS.

Contact

Dave Fagan, (703) 308-8625

Region 1

Region 1's WMD completed ranking of all its RCRA TSD facilities using the NCAPS model to prioritize cleanup of the facilities and evaluated TSD facilities with high NCAPS ranking for location within areas having potential environmental justice concerns. This evaluation was based on census data and GIS data and used a scoring system of zero to six, with six being the highest. The Region will prioritize corrective action at RCRA TSD facilities that rank high in both NCAPS and environmental justice scoring.

The Region also created a RCRIS file to store environmental justice scores in RCRIS and RCRIS Info so that users can see the score (or range of scores) for any zip code associated with RCRA handlers. This allows EPA and State personnel working in the RCRA program to access environmental justice information about a community for use in planning and implementation activities. Region 1 and States will be able to use this file with other RCRIS files to allow automating development of target lists for inspections, corrective action, permitting, and closure activities.

Completed Milestones

- | | |
|------|---|
| 9/94 | Completed NCAPS ranking of TSD facilities. |
| 9/94 | Added environmental justice information to RCRIS and RCRIS information files. |

Contact

Joan Serra, (617) 223-5527

Region 2

To ensure consideration of environmental justice, Region 2 is working to incorporate income, percent of minority population, and population density into its environmental benefits (EB) ranking. Region 2 will use the EB ranking with NCAPS ranking to determine the overall facility priority in RCRA permitting and corrective action activities. The inclusion of environmental justice factors will ensure the proper evaluation of human health and environmental issues for minority and low-income populations who live near RCRA-regulated facilities.

Completed Milestones

- | | |
|------|--|
| 9/94 | Drafted plan to gather data and incorporate environmental justice into EB ranking. |
|------|--|

Contacts

Andrew Bellina, (212) 637-4109

Wilfredo Palomino, (212) 637-4179

Region 3

Region 3 drafted a RCRA facility evaluation form (RFEF) to incorporate environmental justice into its priority setting and will circulate the RFEF to RCRA managers for review. Upon approval of the RFEF and receipt of a complete set of demographic maps for the Region's high-NCAPS facilities, the Region will evaluate the high-NCAPS facilities.

Contact

Harry Daw, (215) 597-3177

Region 4

Region 4 focused on combustion facilities and began preparations for implementing guidance on environmental justice in siting, permitting, public involvement, and corrective action. Part of this activity included selecting key facilities with upcoming major decision points that may include environmental justice issues.

Completed Milestones

9/94 Selected key facilities with upcoming major decision points.

Contact

Eddie L. Wright, (404) 347-3555, x6310

Region 6

Region 6 is coordinating Superfund and RCRA activities at a site in selecting the cleanup remedy. In preparing the Statement of Basis for the remedy selection, the Region 6 facility manager obtained, evaluated, and incorporated information related to Superfund, RCRA, and State remedial activities. The facility manager also compiled environmental justice information related to the site by coordinating with the Region's GIS Coordinator to obtain information related to identifying environmental justice concerns. The Region held a public meeting before issuing the notice for the Statement of Basis.

Completed Milestones

9/94 Completed evaluation of remedy information for the site.

9/94 Held a public meeting before the release of the notice of the Statement of Basis.

12/94 Prepared the Statement of Basis for the remedy selection.

Contact

Vince Malott, (214) 665-8313

Region 7

Region 7 is using available socio-economic census data and other information related to potential or actual environmental justice problems in prioritizing future RCRA corrective action activities in the Region. The Region will assess and use this information when it conducts its annual RCRA corrective action multi-year strategy planning and prioritization process with the State RCRA programs. A RCRA corrective action facility located in an area with actual environmental justice problems or that poses a potential for such problems will be considered as a higher priority facility in the corrective action prioritization and planning process.

Completed Milestones

- 3/95 Reviewed available GIS/census information.
- 3/95 Requested additional GIS/census information.

Contact

David Doyle, (913) 551-7667

Region 9

Region 9 has undertaken a GIS assessment project that will analyze all States in the Region for demographics, race, and potential and measured sources of pollution. The Region is taking this approach rather than individually reevaluating all prioritized sites to determine whether environmental justice is adequately addressed. The RCRA corrective action program will use the results of this GIS project to determine whether the NCAPS priority of a facility should be raised.

Also, to integrate environmental justice into RCRA corrective action efforts, the first annual Region 9 RCRA Corrective Action Conference included a workshop/breakout session on environmental justice. The focus of the workshop was on developing a consensus definition relevant to corrective action; discussing case studies; and integrating community relations efforts at corrective action sites.

Contacts

Nancy Nadel, (415) 744-2043

Karen Scheuermann, (415) 744-2068

Action Item

Utilize the geographic information system in RCRA.

Office of Solid Waste

OSW has developed GIS, called the Decision Support System (DSS), jointly with the Environmental Monitoring Systems Laboratory in Las Vegas (EMSL-LV). This fully functional GIS contains both a location analysis and a population analysis tool, which currently can estimate population density for an area. EPA hopes to expand this tool so

that it can be used to assess and identify geographic areas where pollution sources appear to have a disproportionately high and adverse health or environmental effect on certain minority or low-income populations. EPA is researching different approaches for analyzing census data to accurately reflect potential areas with environmental justice concerns and has completed a guidance document that describes several different approaches for analyzing populations that could be used depending upon the scenario (e.g., rural areas versus high-density areas).

Contact

Felicia Wright, (703) 308-8634

[Note: This entry is also reported under the GIS topic area.]

Region 2

To aid in the identification of areas with environmental justice concerns, Region 2's Office of Policy and Management (OPM) has drafted a strategy document entitled "Regional Location Policy." This document will outline how Region 2 personnel will obtain facility locational data on its regulated universe in all programs to more accurately identify facilities. A Locational Data Policy Workgroup has been established to discuss ways in which the information in the strategy will be implemented.

Completed Milestones

12/94 Developed and distributed draft "Regional Location Policy" for internal review.

Contact

Mary Stallings, (212) 264-8325

Action Item

Disproportionate impacts research—Perform demographics analysis around combustion facilities.

Region 5

The public brought environmental justice issues over operations at the WTI incinerator, located in East Liverpool, Ohio, to Region 5's attention. The Region is currently conducting a risk assessment at the WTI incinerator. The Region also began a demographic analysis of the surrounding community to identify minority and low-income populations.

Completed Milestones

11/94 Initiated demographic analysis.

Contact

Harriet Croke, (312) 353-4789

Region 7

Region 7 is collecting data to assess concerns that minority and low-income populations are exposed to greater risk because they live in close proximity to toxic and hazardous waste facilities. Region 7 is including combustion facilities in its analysis. The Region has initiated and implemented a work assignment for contractual support in developing location data (latitude and longitude) of all RCRA combustion facilities in its authorized RCRA program States (Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska).

Completed Milestones

11/94 Initiated work assignment for project.
3/95 Completed field work.

Contact

David Doyle, (913) 551-7667

Action Item

RCRA Tribal implementation issues—Accelerate efforts to develop draft rule for Subtitle C hazardous waste authorization to tribes.

Office of Solid Waste

OSW staff from Headquarters and the Regions formed a workgroup to develop a proposed rule that would amend the State hazardous waste authorization regulations by providing tribes the same opportunity as States for RCRA Subtitle C (hazardous waste) authorization and to receive RCRA Section 3011 grants. Currently, only authorized States are eligible to receive RCRA Section 3011 grant funds to implement the Subtitle C hazardous waste program. Publication of the rule is expected to occur in the fall of 1995.

Completed Milestones

Fall 1994 Held public meetings.
3/95 Reached workgroup closure.

Contact

Virginia Phillips, (703) 308-8761

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Native American/Tribal Issues topic area.]

Region 5

Region 5's RCRA program office continued to participate in the national workgroup to amend 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 271 to "Treat Tribes as Sovereigns" and to provide for partial RCRA program delegation to Tribes. In support of this effort, Region 5's RCRA program office also continued its management of the National Tribal

Authorization Pilot Project for the Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin. On September 16, 1994, the office received a final authorization application from the Menominee Tribe. In coordination with OSWER, Region 5's RCRA program office has pursued forwarding options for providing authorization to the Menominee Tribe and anticipates publishing a *Federal Register* notice authorizing the Tribe by the end of fiscal year 1995.

Completed Milestones

9/94 Received the final authorization application from the Menominee Tribe.

Contact

Margaret Millard, (312) 353-1440

Action Item

RCRA Tribal implementation issues—Expand the VISTA program to provide assistance to Native Alaskan Villages on solid waste management issues.

Office of Solid Waste

Through a \$100,000 interagency agreement (IAG), OSW and ACTION have joined together, in conjunction with Native Alaskan non-profit regional corporations, to place Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) volunteers in Native Alaskan Villages (NAVs) to work on solid waste management issues. Headquarters and Regional staff trained the volunteers in a week-long session in Anchorage in November 1993.

Initially, OSW planned to evaluate the pilot to determine the potential for continuing and expanding the use of volunteers in Alaska and the continental United States, however, the OSW project was developed into an EPA proposal for funding from the Corporation for the National Service. Through the AmeriCorps program, the corporation awarded EPA a grant to expand the project and 15 volunteers are now assigned to NAVs to work on solid waste management issues. OSW combined its VISTA project with the AmeriCorps project in September 1994.

Completed Milestones

5/94 Conducted mid-year evaluation.

9/94 Combined OSW's VISTA project with the AmeriCorps project.

Contacts

Judi Kane, (703) 308-8644

Lilian Bagus, (202) 260-4058

[Note: These entries are also reported under the Native American/Tribal Issues topic area and the Federal Interagency Cooperation topic area.]

Action Item

RCRA Tribal implementation issues—Enhance training and outreach activities, seek to leverage resources, and coordinate environmental activities among Federal agencies.

Office of Solid Waste

OSW appropriated a fiscal year 1994 budget of \$505,000 to provide technical assistance for RCRA activities on Indian lands. The workplan for the disbursement of these Headquarters funds (the Regions also fund Indian activities using Regional resources) was established jointly by Headquarters and Regional staff. Funds are used to support Headquarters and Regional Indian activities such as training and outreach, meeting support, regulatory development, direct grants to the Tribes, and the circuit rider program. In fiscal year 1994, Headquarters contributed \$100,000 or \$20,000 per position to the circuit rider program. OSW employs two FTE assigned solely to the Indian program. Other staff within OSW, particularly the Municipal Support and Industrial Solid Waste Division, also support the Indian Program. During the past year, OSW conducted a variety of activities designed to enhance Tribal outreach and training:

- Regions 5, 6, 9, and 10 held Regional Tribal meetings supported by Headquarters funding (approximately \$5,000 per meeting). Regional staff work with Tribes to develop agendas and secure speakers at these meetings.
- The “Native American Network” and other Tribal-specific publications are designed and disseminated by Headquarters and Regional staff to provide “user-friendly” information on grant availability; rules and regulations; and other RCRA-related activities. This outreach is expected to continue through 1995.

OSW also sponsored the Second National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management as its major outreach and training activity in fiscal year 1994. OSW awarded a \$70,000 grant to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to host the conference. In addition, OSW provided \$35,000 toward Tribal travel for the conference and approximately \$25,000 in contractual support. OSW Indian Program staff and the Indian Coordinator from the Office of Emergency and Remedial Response also provided extensive support to the Cherokee staff throughout the pre-conference and conference periods. Nearly 450 participants attended the conference.

OSW has been supporting the development of IndianNet, an electronic bulletin board that provides information and news on Indian issues. OSW is working with Americans for Indian Opportunities to provide direct access to IndianNet for Tribes for EPA information. OSW plans to hold a workshop for four pilot Tribes on using IndianNet and develop and distribute a user’s guide to all Tribes. Due to technical difficulties, the original plan to access through the State and Regional Programs Branch Bulletin Board System (SRPB/BBS) was not feasible. OSW is currently working on direct access to IndianNet to access Tribes for EPA information.

In addition, OSW’s Indian Programs Manager is a member of the Interagency Task Force that meets quarterly with representatives from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Indian Health Service (IHS), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and other EPA offices to exchange information on environmental issues relating to Tribes and to ex-

plore possibilities for interagency cooperation. In addition, OSW provided grant funds to Regions 8, 9, and 10 to promote interagency cooperation through the following activities:

- Region 8 is completing details for an IAG with IHS for \$36,000 to provide assistance on open dump inventories and assessment;
- Region 9's solid waste staff completed negotiations with the IHS for a \$40,000 IAG between EPA and IHS to consult and cooperate on solid waste management issues; and
- Region 10's Solid Waste Program staff established and funded \$50,000 for the Solid Waste Network that is composed of representatives from various federal agencies, including EPA; BIA; and IHS; private industry; and academia. The Solid Waste Network is used to provide resources and expertise to address Tribe-specific solid waste management issues.

Completed Milestones

1994	Signed Region 9 IHS Interagency Agreement.
1994	Held Tribal meetings with Regions 5, 6, 9, and 10.
1994	Published "Native American Network."
5/94	Sponsored Second National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management.

Contact

Judi Kane, (703) 308-8644

[Note: These entries are also reported under the Native American/Tribal Issues topic area.]

Region 4

Region 4 is providing technical assistance to Native American Tribes for the RCRA Subtitle D (solid waste) program and has initiated a program to provide funds and technical assistance for solid waste disposal. Several Tribes have ongoing projects funded by Region 4 through the Solid Waste Management Assistance Program established by RCRA Section 8001. These funds have been provided to:

- The Eastern Band of Cherokee, who received an increase of \$19,000 to fund a full-time solid waste coordinator to continue a recycling and public outreach program;
- The Seminole Tribe, who received \$52,000 to hire a solid waste manager to implement recommendations from the Tribe's solid waste management plan;
- The Miccosukee Tribe in Florida, who received \$13,000 to develop and operate a recycling program; and
- The Choctaw Tribe of Mississippi, who received \$60,000 to prepare a solid waste management plan.

In addition, Region 4 is assisting the Poarch Creek Tribe in implementing a recycling program.

In 1995, each of the Federally recognized Tribes in Region 4 will continue these projects to address environmental concerns and waste management issues. Region 4 also intends to provide funds in 1995, to the Catawba Tribe in South Carolina, which recently became a Federally recognized Tribe. The funds will be used to develop a solid waste management plan and to initiate a program to cleanup and prevent the occurrence of open dumps.

Completed Milestones

9/94 Funded various assistance projects under RCRA Section 8001.

Contact

Robin Mitchell, (404) 347-3555

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Native American/Tribal Issues topic area.]

Region 5

To enhance funding of Tribal operations, Region 5 Office of RCRA (ORCRA) continued its support of the Region 5 General Assistance Act multi-media grants to Tribes by providing \$125,000 in fiscal year 1994 and committing to provide an additional \$125,000 in fiscal year 1995.

A survey of Region 5 Tribes was conducted in fiscal year 1994 to assess their hazardous waste needs. A draft response to the needs identified, along with further information on training and technical assistance available to the Tribes, was compiled during the first quarter of fiscal year 1995 and is currently under internal review. In addition, during the first quarter of fiscal year 1995, a RCRA Subtitle C outreach program for Tribes was drafted. Region 5 anticipates finalizing the program during the second quarter of fiscal year 1995.

To facilitate communication and coordination of solid waste projects among appropriate Federal agencies, Region 5's Solid Waste Tribal Coordinator increased the Region's role and participation in Federal workgroups to enhance communication of Indian Tribe issues. The coordinator participated in meetings for the Federal Tribal Solid Waste Task Force.

Completed Milestones

2/94-9/94 Attended Federal Solid Waste Task Force meetings.

11/94 Surveyed Tribes to assess their hazardous waste needs.

12/94 Drafted RCRA outreach program for Tribes which provides an overview of the RCRA program.

Contacts

Jennifer Manville, (312) 886-7599 (RCRA Subtitle D)

Margaret Millard, (312) 353-1440 (RCRA Subtitle C)

[Note: Parts of this entry are also reported under the Native American/Tribal Issues topic area.]

Region 6

Region 6 actively seeks to promote Tribal implementation of RCRA Subtitle D (solid waste) requirements through grants, outreach, site visits, coordination with Tribal environmental programs, and technical assistance. Region 6 has provided more than 23 percent of all Regional grant funds to Native American Tribes for pilot projects to help start effective solid waste management programs for Native American lands. Region 6 employs a full-time circuit rider to communicate with Tribal members about their solid waste activities. In fiscal year 1995, the Region plans to hire an additional circuit rider to support these activities.

Region 6 has engaged in several activities to enhance New Mexico Tribal capacities. This included granting funds to the State of New Mexico's Environmental Improvement Division to enable the State to employ an additional staff member to work on New Mexico Tribal capacity issues and to serve as a State/Tribal liaison. Also, in January 1995, Region 6 and Headquarters hosted a "regionalization" conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to promote cooperation between Native Americans and non-Native Americans in addressing solid waste disposal concerns. All Tribes and small municipalities in New Mexico were invited to attend. The conference encouraged the Tribes and municipalities to enter into cooperative agreements to address solid waste disposal concerns.

The Region also is supporting Tribes in their efforts to establish new Subtitle D programs. In February 1994, the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma submitted draft copies of its proposed environmental laws, solid waste disposal facility regulations, and solid waste management plans for Region 6 review and comment. The Region's efforts to encourage other Tribes to submit Subtitle D program applications is an ongoing effort.

Completed Milestones

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2/94 | Received Subtitle D application from the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. |
| 1/95 | Held "regionalization" conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. |
| 1/95 | Draft final plan submitted by the Cherokee Nation. |
| 4/95 | Final plan submitted by the Cherokee Nation. |

Contacts

Will Lemmond, (214) 665-6752

Verne McFarland, (214) 665-6617

Guanita Reiter, (214) 665-6656

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Native American/Tribal Issues topic area.]

Region 10

Region 10 designated an Indian Coordinator to increase technical assistance to Indian Tribes. Using partial funding from the RCRA program, the Coordinator assisted the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs in organizing the Northwest Tribal Environmental Conference and Gathering in September 1994 in Warm Springs, Oregon, to address a variety of environmental issues.

In addition to the technical conference, the Coordinator worked with the Alaska Native Health board and the Northwest Renewable Resources Center to organize two well-attended Tribal conferences with EPA and Tribal leaders in the fall of 1994, one in Anchorage, Alaska, and another in Seattle, Washington for Tribes in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. The conferences were designed to strengthen EPA's working relationship with Tribal leaders and to hear their concerns regarding environmental issues.

In addition, the RCRA program provided \$15,000 in scholarship funds for Tribes to attend the National Recycling Congress (NRC) in October 1994 in Portland, Oregon. Representatives from over 10 different Tribes attended and provided positive feedback for this effort. Region 10 is also facilitating efforts to ensure that representatives who attended the meeting become involved in the Rural Recycling Task Force.

In another environmental justice initiative, Region 10 is using Senior Environmental Employee (SEE) circuit riders to conduct outreach and technical assistance to Tribes and Native Alaskan Villages. Region 10 supports one part-time circuit rider in Alaska, using funding from OSW and the Region 10 RCRA program, and one part-time circuit rider for Tribes in the States of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho, using \$20,000 from the Region. The circuit riders visit Tribes frequently to learn about their current needs and issues, and to deliver information on sound solid waste management. The equivalent of one full-time senior staff person oversees the activities of the SEE employees.

Region 10's solid waste circuit rider is working with the Nooksack, Coeur d'Alene, and other Tribes to investigate their complaints about old dumps and/or illegal dumps to control illegal dumping. Region 10 also is working with these Tribes on an illegal dumping ordinance to control illegal trash dumping. The RCRA program is helping develop a workshop on waste reduction and solid waste planning (including unit pricing) for Indian Tribes in southwest Washington. The Tribes are co-sponsoring the workshop and funding is being provided by OSW to the Conference of Mayors.

Completed Milestones

- 9/94 Conducted Warm Springs technical conference.
- 10/94 Provided funding to attend NRC.
- 10/94 Conducted leadership conferences.
- 12/94 Started workshops on illegal dumping.

Contacts

Fran Stefan, (206) 553-6639

Al LaTourette, (206) 553-8202

Region 10 also is implementing a Solid Waste Network that is composed of representatives from various Federal agencies, including EPA, BIA, and IHS, private industry and academia to promote interagency coordination with Indian Tribes. The network is used to provide resources and expertise to address Tribe-specific solid waste management issues. Under this effort, a solid waste management plan for the Spokane Tribe has been completed. The grantee that facilitates the effort is compiling a process manual to document "lessons learned" from working with Tribes and assist them in setting priorities and action plans in the future.

Completed Milestones

- 1994 Continued the Solid Waste Network.
- 11/94 Provided solid waste management plan assistance to Spokane Tribe.
- 1/95 Identified additional Tribes interested in assistance (Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, Confederated Tribes of the Yakama Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation).

Contact

Fran Stefan, (206) 553-6639

In another effort, Region 10 established an Alaska Native Villager workgroup to provide technical assistance and coordinate policy issues, concerns, and responses related to multi-media issues. In addition to workgroup activities, the RCRA and water programs jointly funded the Rural Alaska Sanitation Coalition (RASC), composed of representatives from the Alaska Native Health Board. RASC serves as a policy forum for key sanitation issues facing rural Alaska, such as solid waste. On April 20-21, 1995, the Region 10 RCRA office will provide updated information on emerging solid waste regulatory and funding issues to members of RASC.

The RCRA Solid Waste Program has continued to provide Regional input and oversight for three Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) volunteers placed in rural Alaska and has conducted several debriefings with them to determine how to improve technical assistance. In the fall of 1994, RCRA linked the VISTA work in Alaska with a new program, EPA-Alaska AmeriCorps. The EPA-Alaska AmeriCorps project operates in locations throughout Alaska, and targets volunteer action to identify and resolve waste and water issues at the local level. EPA recruited fifteen AmeriCorps volunteers from Alaska, thirteen of which represent their own villages. In January 1995, RCRA offered a week of training for AmeriCorps volunteers in Native Alaskan organizations.

Region 10's RCRA office also supports Alaskan waste management through the following grant-funded programs:

- A \$116,000 multi-year grant to the Chugachmiut organization to design a model for managing household hazardous waste in rural Alaska;
- A \$30,000 to the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP), Bethel, Alaska, to hire an interim solid waste management coordinator;
- Working with AVCP and the village of Akiachak, to support development of a Yupik translation of the "Trash Management Guide"; and
- Providing copies of the RCRA-sponsored/Alaska-based curricula, "Changing Waste in Changing Times" to several villages upon their request. The curricula combines traditional and modern concepts of waste management.

In addition, in the fall of 1994 Region 10 conducted extensive evaluations of its overall Tribal operations. As a result, the Indian Coordinator and Region 10 Executive Team established a number of new positions with the goal of improving delivery of services, outreach, grant management, and technical assistance to Tribes.

Completed Milestones

5/94	Conducted VISTA debrief to evaluate success of VISTA volunteers in Alaska.
8/94	Funded Chugachmiut and AVCP projects.
10/94	Evaluated Regional Tribal Operations.
11/94	Funded Rural Alaska Sanitation Coalition.
12/94	Recruited and hired 15 AmeriCorps volunteers.
1/95	Trained AmeriCorps volunteers.

Contact

Fran Stefan, (206) 553-6639

Action Item

RCRA Enforcement—Ensure the consideration of environmental justice in RCRA enforcement activities.

Region 1

Region 1's WMD developed a matrix to better target RCRA inspections and to maximize the use of its available resources. The matrix uses criteria that combine regional and national initiatives and geographic targeting to identify areas to strategically target RCRA inspections. To incorporate environmental justice concerns, the Region expanded the criteria to consider the presence of minority or low-income communities. As a result of the incorporation of environmental justice concerns into its matrix for targeting inspections, Region 1's RCRA program conducted 18 inspections in areas with environmental justice concerns from May 1, 1994, through December 31, 1994. The Region's RIP calls for the completion of 18 inspections before the end of fiscal year 1995; the Region expects to exceed this figure.

With the increased number of RCRA inspections at facilities in areas with environmental justice concerns, the Region also expects an increase in enforcement activity in those areas. The Region will prioritize this enforcement activity to address the most severely disadvantaged communities first. The Region will also attempt to increase the use of supplemental environmental projects (SEPs), which finance needed environmental and public health improvements in those communities. For example, Region 1 issued an administrative complaint against three Massachusetts Highway Department (MHD) facilities for RCRA violations; at least one of the facilities was in a community with environmental justice concerns. Following extensive negotiations, MHD agreed to pay a \$100,000 penalty, \$5 million on SEPs, and \$20 million on auditing and remediating, where necessary, at its 139 facilities.

Completed Milestones

12/94	Completed 18 RCRA inspections in areas with environmental justice concerns.
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Contact

Joan Serra, (617) 223-5527

Region 2

With the completion of GIS analysis, Region 2 will analyze the identified areas with potential environmental justice concerns to determine whether there is a significant difference between enforcement activities in these areas and those without an environmental justice concern. This analysis will compare the number of RCRA facilities, and the total penalty amounts assessed against companies located in both environmental justice and non-environmental justice areas. Depending on the study's findings, the Region 2 RCRA program will provide recommendations to assure an equal level of protection for environmental justice communities.

Completed Milestones

3/95 Identified a preliminary list of environmental justice areas to be used for purposes of RCRA compliance only, with available locational data.

Contact

Pete Mannino, (212) 637-4158

During fiscal years 1993 and 1994, EPA conducted 200 inspections in the City of Newark and 150 inspections in the City of Camden, New Jersey. During fiscal year 1994, EPA conducted 50 follow-up inspections in Newark to confirm the compliance status of facilities with potential violations. As a result of the Newark inspections, four Notices of Violation (NOVs) were prepared, and five information request letters were prepared to determine if violations exist. As of February 1995, the companies are in full compliance.

During fiscal year 1995, EPA also conducted 26 follow-up inspections in Camden to confirm the compliance status of facilities with potential violations. As a result of the Camden inspections, one NOV was prepared, and four information request letters were prepared to determine if violations exist. As of February 1995, the companies were in full compliance. For future compliance monitoring in Camden and Newark, the Region is planning outreach efforts directed toward the local fire inspectors and other municipal and county representatives. Region 2 will provide training to staff at the local fire departments to improve their ability to identify hazardous waste violations so they can refer potential violator cases to the NJDEP or EPA for formal action.

Completed Milestones

10/94 Inspected all Camden facilities for compliance.

3/95 Shared results of Newark initiative with appropriate Newark City agencies.

3/95 Shared results of Camden initiative with appropriate Camden City agencies.

Contact

Kellyann Few, (212) 637-3155

In the Cities of Greenpoint and Williamsburg, New York, EPA conducted 104 inspections during fiscal years 1993 and 1994 of both RCRA notifiers and non-notifiers. By February 1995, the companies were in full compliance. EPA also has offered seminars to the regulated community on both Clean Water Act pretreatment and RCRA hazardous waste requirements. EPA is remaining in contact with members of these communities for future outreach activities.

Completed Milestones

6/94 Inspected all Greenpoint/Williamsburg facilities for compliance.

6/94 Conducted initial outreach seminars in Greenpoint/Williamsburg.

Contact

Len Grossman, (212) 637-4153

Using GIS to target facilities, Region 2 has planned compliance evaluation inspections of 200 facilities in Nassau and Suffolk County, New York, as part of Phase I of the Long Island Initiative. These facilities include operating large and small quantity generators that have never been inspected, non-notifiers, facilities in high environmental justice areas, industrial parks, and facilities that have been issued State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits in high-risk locations with respect to Long Island's groundwater. The Region used GIS to target facilities in areas of environmental justice concerns and areas where the groundwater is most vulnerable. The RCRA program is coordinating their efforts with the Underground Injection Control Program, which currently is conducting weekly inspections in Huntington, Long Island.

Completed Milestones

3/95 Completed 80 inspections on Long Island.

Contact

Pete Mannino, (212) 637-4158

Region 3

Region 3's RCRA program is participating in the Region's multi-media enforcement initiative to use demographic analysis as one of the criteria in the multi-media screening and site selection process for targeting of enforcement actions. A memorandum requesting the incorporation of this criteria has been drafted and is expected to be finalized in February 1995.

Contact

Harry Daw, (215) 597-3177

Region 5

Region 5 will consider the use of SEPs in RCRA Section 3008(a) enforcement actions to redress instances where environmental justice is relevant.

The revised SEP policy was communicated to Region 5's ORC and Department of Justice attorneys during the first quarter of fiscal year 1995. This topic will be presented for all Region 5 RCRA program office staff, including RCRA enforcement personnel, during the upcoming environmental justice workshop.

Contact

Margaret Millard, (312) 353-1440

Region 7

Region 7 is updating its GIS with socio-economic data from the Census Bureau and data from RCRIS to target RCRA compliance inspections in areas the Region deemed to be potential environmental justice problem areas. The Region's initial efforts to target environmental justice concerns are focused in St. Louis City and St. Louis County. The Region will continue to expand GIS data collection and analysis to other counties or areas in the Region where there may be environmental justice concerns. In its environmental justice initiative in St. Louis City and County, the Region will work with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), relying almost totally on MDNR inspection resources to conduct "screening inspections."

In its State/EPA agreement workplans with the three authorized RCRA program States, Region 7 reached agreement with each State to consider environmental justice related information and data in their selection of RCRA compliance inspection candidates. The Region also had further discussions with MDNR on focusing RCRA inspection resources on conducting compliance inspections in areas of St. Louis where environmental justice problems may exist.

Completed Milestones

- | | |
|------|--|
| 5/94 | Met with MDNR about the St. Louis environmental justice pilot. |
| 7/94 | Decided on MDNR involvement in the pilot. |
| 2/95 | Began data collection from GIS for the St. Louis area. |

Contact

David Doyle, (913) 551-7667

Region 9

Region 9 has identified target areas for fiscal year 1995 inspections. In targeting the inspections, Region 9 is considering geographic areas with environmental justice concerns, identifying those areas which pose the greatest risks.

Completed Milestones

- 11/94 Identified target areas for fiscal year 1995 inspections.
- 1/95 Began inspections in targeted areas.

Contact

Dianne Young, (415) 744-1561

Action Item

Address environmental justice issues associated with RCRA Subtitle D (Solid Waste).

Region 1

Region 1 implemented an outreach program to assist the States in ensuring that environmental justice language is incorporated into State applications under the RCRA Subtitle D Municipal Solid Waste Landfill (MSWLF) Program. The Connecticut RCRA Subtitle D program, which was approved prior to Region 1's initiation of the outreach program, already has developed an environmental justice action plan for their environmental programs. Region 1 continues to work closely with Massachusetts and New Hampshire to help these States in incorporating environmental justice into their programs. In addition, Region 1 is encouraging the other States (Vermont, Maine, and Rhode Island) to incorporate environmental justice into their programs.

Completed Milestones

- 1/95 Forwarded public comments received regarding the impacts of solid waste management on neighborhoods to Massachusetts.

Contact

John Hackler, (617) 573-9670

Region 5

Region 5 launched several initiatives to address environmental justice issues associated with RCRA Subtitle D. These initiatives included steps to ensure that existing MSWLFs located in communities with potential environmental justice concerns are in full compliance with the Federal landfill criteria. Region 5's Solid Waste Section (SWS) was scheduled to present the environmental justice implementation plan to each State's solid waste agency and initiate a dialogue regarding compliance and enforcement at MSWLFs located in communities of concern. Due to the lack of criteria and data indicating the communities in Region 5 with environmental justice concerns, the focus of this action item was narrowed to States in Region 5 that contain geographic initiatives (Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan). The Region made initial written contact with the States in September 1994.

Region 5 also provided technical assistance on solid waste issues to communities with potential environmental justice concerns, local governments, and citizen groups. Region 5's SWS notified local government officials in the southeast Chicago area of a

conference on solid waste source reduction. Notice of the conference was sent to all members of the International City Managers Association in the Chicago area. The conference was held in June 1994. Region 5's SWS also developed solid waste resource packets consisting of government contacts and lists of available resources. The resource packets included a list of State solid waste contacts and Region 5 contacts; EPA Headquarters and Regional publications; a fact sheet on the solid waste grant program; and examples of useful publications. The SWS is currently working with the coordinators of the Region's geographic initiatives to develop a list of community contacts that may be interested in the packets.

Region 5 also intends to use the Minority Academic Institutions programs to educate communities on solid waste topics. The SWS developed a list of potential solid waste community education needs that are relevant to communities with environmental justice concerns. Also, a list of colleges and universities with significant minority populations was developed. Solicitations for the project were mailed to schools on September 27, 1994.

Completed Milestones

- 6/94 Notified local government officials from environmental justice communities in the Southeast Chicago area of an upcoming conference on solid waste source reduction in Chicago.
- 9/94 Developed solid waste resource packets consisting of government contacts and lists of available resources.
- 9/94 Developed a list of potential solid waste community education needs relevant to communities with environmental justice concerns.

Contact

Jennifer Manville, (312) 886-7599

